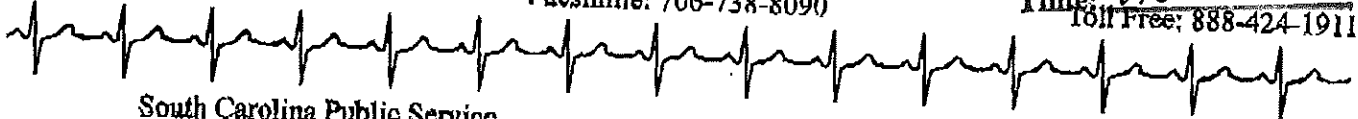


**SOUTHSTAR**

AMBULANCE SERVICE  
681 Silver Bluff Road, Suite 104  
Aiken, South Carolina 29803  
Facsimile: 706-738-8090

Posted: tedDept: S.A./ORSDate: 10/30/08Time: 1:00  
Toll Free: 888-424-1911

Dispatch: 803-643-9113



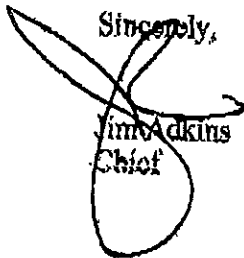
South Carolina Public Service  
RE: 2007-445-A

SouthStar Ambulance opposes utilization of non-medical stretcher service providers as this service has NO medical standards of care, employs non-trained/non-licensed staff and can not undertake any intervention of medical onset.

There is no costs savings using this type program as the funds are simply transferred to a for-profit broker who then utilizes the least costly service, the difference of which then becomes profit to the broker. Providers under the broker system are forced to operate sub-standard vehicles and employ cheapest staff and then hope to have a large volume transports to sustain a business. This process takes the Medicaid stretcher patients down to the lowest possible category of transport services, basically the same as a hauling company.

South Carolina PSC should consider quality of life issues and proper safe medical transport for stretcher patients and remain unaltered in the commitment to excellence in medical care and transport of the ill and injured.

Sincerely,

  
Jim Adkins  
Chief

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PSC SC  
DOCKETING DEPT.

*"A Tradition of Service"*

